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STATE DOCUMENTS

South Carolina State Library Board

## NEWS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIANS

April 1961

45th Issue

### CERTIFICATION PLAN FOR SOUTH CAROLINA

At the request of the Public Library Section of the South Carolina State Library Association, the State Library Board is developing a plan for certification of public librarians in the state. As consultant for this project, Miss L. Marion Moshier, former director of the State Library Extension Division, New York State Library, has spent some time with the State Library Board developing a certification plan. Miss Moshier is one of the nation's outstanding public librarians and an authority on library extension. She is well known in South Carolina as a joint author of The Small Public Library.

The following is a quotation from the introduction to the certification plan proposed for South Carolina by Miss Moshier:

#### Importance of certification

Public library service has become an increasingly important public service which effects the lives of the entire population. Hence, it is essential that there be guarantees that the service is in qualified hands. Likewise in most libraries the largest portion of the tax monies allotted to libraries is spent on Personnel, for the major factor in the success of a library is the ability of the librarian and the library staff. Thus, it is prudent that guideposts for selection be established and a minimum of educational preparation be noted.

In the past, reading for the law without formal training produced many outstanding lawyers. There have been, and are, many remarkable librarians who have gained "on the job" training and provided successful, effective library service. This type of training leaves much to chance and requires more time, under proper supervision, than is available in libraries today. Hence, the majority of states have adopted Certification Plans based on formal educational and library courses.

Certification aids the library boards and librarians in selecting competent personnel; it gives the taxing bodies some assurance that the public funds are spent for quality service; and it improves the status of librarianship as a profession. The gains are many, and the inconveniences, once the plan is in operation, are few.



## Summary of Advantages

### **For Library Boards**

A means of readily identifying the minimum requirements needed

A terminology that makes possible definite comparison with other libraries.

### **For Taxing Bodies**

An objective basis for knowing type of personnel service to be provided with the funds requested

### **For Directors of Libraries**

A concrete means of presenting personnel needs to boards and taxing bodies

A basis for promotion

### **For the Profession**

Professional status

A recruiting device to attract, award, and retain competent applicants

The proposed certification plan will be presented to the Executive Board of the Public Library Section of SCLA prior to the November meeting of the Association and will be presented to the Public Library Section at its business meeting in November. It is hoped to put the plan into effect by 1 January, 1962.

## **KERSHAW COUNTY LIBRARY REORGANIZED**

Through an act of this session of the General Assembly, the Kershaw County Library has been reorganized under a new board. The new act gives the board full authority to operate modern public library service in Kershaw County and should clear the way for the development of better service throughout the county.

The first meeting of the board was held on March 28th at which time Mrs. J. T. Copeland was elected chairman. Other members are Mr. Lewis Pitts, Mrs. W. L. Depass, Mrs. J. T. Gettys, and the Reverend W. J. Moretz.



## MISS MULLEN VISITS SOUTH CAROLINA

Miss Evelyn Day Mullen, Library Extension Specialist, Library Branch, Office of Education, made a tour of the demonstration projects being conducted under the terms of the Library Services Act in South Carolina during the week of March 13th. Accompanied by Miss Dorothy Smith, who is the supervisor of the regional and county projects in the state, Miss Mullen visited the Anderson County Library and the Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library. While in Columbia she has an opportunity to discuss with the staff the Junior Intern Project, the Caroliniana Materials Project, and the Book Collection Improvement Project.

Miss Mullen is well known in South Carolina. She is the former librarian of Coker College and was field librarian with the North Carolina Library Commission before becoming Director of the Alabama Library Services Division. From the latter office she went to the Library Branch of the Office of Education at the beginning of the Library Services Act Program.

## SERVICE FOR THE BLIND

As this story is written, funds to provide library service to the blind have been made available in both the House and Senate's version of the General Appropriations Bill. The Bill is now in conference, but every indication is that these funds will remain in the General Appropriations Bill and will be available to establish the service early in the next fiscal year.

Service to the blind in South Carolina will be given through a cooperative plan with North Carolina for regional library service. As soon as the funds are actually available, additional information about this service will be sent to all public libraries in the state.

## STATE LIBRARY BOARD WORKSHOPS

R. Bryan Roberts, Reference Consultant, and Frances Reid, Field Service Librarian, State Library Board, will conduct a workshop on basic reference books at the Anderson County Library on April 26. Librarians from Greenwood and Abbeville Counties as well as from the Anderson area have been invited to attend.

Mrs. Augustus Smith, librarian, Anderson County Library, is in charge of local arrangements for this workshop.

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During May several one-day programs on library work with children will be offered by the State Library Board. Parents will be invited to the portion of the program concerned with children's books and reading.



## NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

Loans for Public Library Construction Under the Public Facility Loans Program (Community Facilities Administration of the Housing and Home Finance Agency), long-term loans are available to assist in financing of needed public works projects. Public Libraries are considered eligible for such loans.

Book on LSA Public Libraries for Everyone by Hawthorne Daniel has been announced by Doubleday for publication on April 21, 1961. Mr. Daniel visited and corresponded with many state library extension agencies and others for background information and material on activities under the Library Services Act. His book is being awaited with much interest.

New Commissioner Dr. Sterling M. McMurrin, professor of philosophy and academic vice-president of the University of Utah, has been named U.S. Commissioner of Education to succeed Dr. Lawrence G. Derthick. Dr. McMurrin has been with the University of Utah since 1948 and was dean of the College of Letters and Science before becoming vice-president. He was a member of the philosophy faculty at the University of Southern California prior to 1948. An interesting article on him can be found in the Saturday Review (February 18, 1961)--"Sterling M. McMurrin, New U.S. Commissioner of Education" by Dorsey Baynham.

## THE PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Where applicable a copy of the midwinter issue of The Public Library Trustee is appended. Please study carefully the guidelines for implementation of the Montreal resolution, which are listed under Action Development, Project Reports, page 2.

If any action results from this study, please inform the State Library Board.

## WINNSBORO WOMAN'S CLUB

The Woman's Club of Winnsboro has adopted a library project in the interest of improving services to children and youth from the Fairfield County Library. The Club has raised one thousand dollars with which they plan to renovate and redecorate a room to be devoted to children's services. Work is well under way on this project and the library should be able to open the new room for service within the next six weeks.



## OCONEE BOARD MEMBERS VISIT INDUSTRIES

Members of the Oconee County Library Board made a canvas of 12 industrial firms in Oconee County. In groups of two they carried pictorial and statistical displays prepared by Mrs. Ray Green, the librarian. These displays were left for exhibit at the plants. The Committee presented the present needs and future plans of the library to the industrialists.

As results of the visitations, one plant is making the end panels for the steel shelving recently installed in the renovated library and one industrialist, Mr. Frank Guerrieri, has adopted the library as his hobby. Mr. Guerrieri has formed a group which meets regularly at the library to discuss the present facilities and services and to explore the needs of the library.

## HISTORICAL QUESTION AND ANSWER SERIES

In order to make local history more meaningful, an historical question and answer series has been started by the Greenwood Index-Journal. This project is sponsored by the Greenwood Historical Society and the Greenwood City and County Public Library. Miss Louise Watson, reference librarian, is in charge of the research. Local historians are invited to add to Miss Watson's answers.

One does not have to be a resident of Greenwood County to submit questions so long as the questions concern the Greenwood County area. Genealogical research cannot be undertaken but family history inquiries will be answered if the information is readily available. The queries may be made to the newspaper or to the library.

## TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS OF AMERICAN ART

The Ford Motor Company has 27 traveling art exhibitions which are available to libraries. These exhibitions are from the Ford Times Collection of American Art which has been assembled from work commissioned for Ford publications. The Collection as a whole represents the largest national landscape commission ever undertaken by artists for an industrial sponsor but it also includes wildlife, outdoor sports, regional architecture and regional Americana.

The paintings are matted, covered with cellophane for protection and have corner eyelets for thumbtack installations. They are simple to handle and inexpensive to ship. The only expense to the exhibitor is the cost of shipping the show to its next destination.

For further details write Mr. A. T. Lougee, Art Director, Ford Motor Company, The American Road, Dearborn, Michigan.



## AUDIO - VISUAL MATERIAL

Two excellent recordings of chapters from Grahame's The Wind in the Willows have been made by Pathways of Sound, Inc., 102 Mt. Augurn Street, Cambridge 38, Massachusetts. Volume one contains "Dulce Domum" and "The Piper at the Gates of Dawn," narrated by Robert Brooks (POS 1022 2 s. 12 in. 33-1/3 rpm. \$3.98). Volume two contains "The Open Road," read by Jessica Tandy and "Mr. Toad," read by Hume Cronyn (POS 1026 2 s. 12 in. 33-1/3 rpm. \$3.98).

Eight books that have been awarded the Caldecott Medal comprise the new Picture Book Parade filmstrips announced for spring release by Weston Woods Studios, Weston, Connecticut. Titled the Caldecott Medal Series through special arrangement with the Children's Services Division of the American Library Association, new productions include: The Big Snow, Chanticleer and the Fox, Finders Keepers, Frog Went A-Courtin', The Little Island, Madeline's Rescue, Time of Wonder, A Tree Is Nice.

All in color, the filmstrips may be purchased individually at \$6.50 or as a series of 8 at the special price of \$42.00. Phonograph records based on these books are in production for fall release.

## AIDS FOR MAKING POSTERS, EXHIBITS, ETC.

Two beautiful backgrounds for "Understanding Asia" table exhibits have been professionally made and may be borrowed from the Young Adult Service Division, American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago 11, Illinois. These are duplicates and illustrate the value of careful and effective planning in staging exhibits. Each is packed in a convenient fiberboard case. Books in the exhibit would be supplied from the local library.

The photographic panels which make the setting are from the photographs in the UNESCO exhibit which has the title "East and West Do Meet."

There are no charges other than transportation costs, which must be paid both ways by the borrowing library.

Mutual Aids, 1946 Hillhurst Avenue, Los Angeles 27, California, and Stik-a-letter Company, Route 2, Box 286, Escondido, California, have cardboard and construction paper cut-out letters in various styles, sizes, and colors. Write for descriptive folders from these two companies if you need inexpensive help in making attractive exhibits.



## CHILDREN'S SPRING BOOK FESTIVAL

The 25th celebration of the Children's Spring Book Festival, inaugurated by the Herald Tribune to stimulate Spring publication of children's books, will take place the week of May 14th. Librarians are invited to use this opportunity to make good books and good reading attractive to children.

The following materials, designed to make your celebration a success, are offered at postage cost:

Posters	15¢ for one; 10¢ for each additional
How to Plan a Book Fair	15¢
Set of 25 festival bookmarks	10¢
Children's Spring Book Festival Issue, N. Y. Herald Tribune	15¢

Orders, with payment in stamps or by check, should be sent to: Children's Spring Book Festival, New York Herald Tribune, 230 West 41st Street, New York 36, N. Y. Attention: Mildred Meyer.

## NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

An article, "The President's Voracious Reading Habits," which appeared in Life March 17, 1961, is so apropos that it has been reprinted for distribution in connection with National Library Week.

To date there has been no proclamation from the White House, but the following is quoted from John F. Kennedy's statement for This Week Magazine in connection with the 1959 observance.

Our country has surmounted great crises in the past, not because of our wealth, not because of our rhetoric, not because we had longer cars and whiter iceboxes and bigger television screens than anyone else, but because our ideas were more compelling and more penetrating and more wise and enduring.

Today we need both wisdom and strength and that's the reason why Americans should "Wake Up and Read!" For while we are concentrating our attention on reinforcing every weapon in our arsenal of military strength, let's not neglect one of the great "arsenals" of wisdom: the public library.



This country pioneered in the development of library facilities. But we can no longer rest on our laurels. National Library Week gives us an opportunity to spotlight the unfinished agenda....

If this nation is to be wise as well as strong, if we are to live up to our national promise and live up to our national destiny, then we need more new ideas for more wise men reading more good books in more public libraries.

#### WRITE FOR THESE

Mrs. Elberta C. Thompson, Administrator, Nature Centers for Young America, Incorporated, will place your library on the mailing list to receive Discovering Nature, a booklet published regularly in the interest of conservation. Write Mrs. Thompson for this attractive and useful publication.

Check the six page list (pp. 635-640) of free and inexpensive display material in the April Wilson Library Bulletin for material you can use.

#### MRS. J. C. JOHNSON

Sympathy is extended to the family of Mrs. J. C. Johnson, the former Martha Smith of Marion, who died on March 11, 1961. Mrs. Johnson had held library positions in New York and in South Carolina. At the time of her death she was librarian of the Florence Public Library.

#### YOUR PROBLEMS

by Anne Library

Dear Anne:

I work for a librarian who does not want anybody else in the library to do anything or, it sometimes seems, even to know how to do anything. At meetings I occasionally get to talk with employees from other libraries like this one. I am amazed and envious of what they do. They all seem to work hard, at the top of their abilities. When they meet, they swap experiences, problems and ideas enthusiastically and go home with new energy and new will to convert the heathen to better reading habits. I used to try to do the same. But every new idea I brought home (some may not have been practical but a few I still think might



have worked) won me snaps, growls, and new teethprints, all applied by the librarian. After a while I learned that I am not supposed to think, or "grow in my job," only to do the few routine tasks handed out as unobtrusively as possible. The rest of the staff is in the same predicament. We are sitting around in comparative idleness watching the librarian work like a hurricane. She is doing everybody's work now except that of the catalog typist. (Since she does not type very well, she dismisses this by saying catalog cards are not important.)

What am I to do? And what should the rest of the staff here do? Don't say look for a new job because some of us can't leave this vicinity and we don't want to quit library work altogether.

About to Flip

Dear About to Flip:

Be of good, if guileful, cheer. The lid that is loose may not be yours. Your librarian sounds sick, sick, sick. I think there is probably nothing anyone can do to help her. Either she must see the need and try to change herself (that is, share the work) or she will shortly be doing time in a straight jacket. Either way, relief should come soon.

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Share your problems. Write to Anne Library.

#### SEEN HERE AND THERE

Mrs. Augustus Smith, who has been acting librarian of the Anderson County Library, accepting the appointment as librarian.

The Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library and the Oconee County Library placing orders for new bookmobiles.

Mrs. John D. Smith, Chairman, Trustee Section, SCLA, undergoing an operation on March 8. We wish for her a speedy recovery.

Furman students assisting with the "picture book hour" at the Greenville Public Library.

Mullin's City Library publishing in the local paper a list of overdue books urgently needed in the library.



C. E. Watts, President of the Matheson Memorial Library Association, Cheraw, South Carolina, receiving a check for \$7,032 from the advance gifts drive. The goal is \$20,000 to convert the Matheson home into a city library.

Robert Adger Bowen donating 398 rolls for a player piano in memory of Thomas Fleming Parker, library founder, to the Greenville Library. This collection contains complete operas, symphonies, concertos, and sonatas and is available on loan to library members having player pianos.

Orangeburg County Library Commission presenting South Carolina Secedes by John A. May and Joan R. Faunt to the Orangeburg County Free Library in memory of Mrs. Harry S. Bozard. Mrs. Bozard was a member of the Commission from 1943 until her death in November, 1960.